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## China warning after US missile defence plans

BEIJING (AFP) - China warned against the bolstering of military power and urged caution yesterday after the US announced it would increase its missile defences in response to threats from North Korea.

"All measures seeking to increase military capacities will only intensify antagonism and will not help to solve the problem," foreign ministry spokesman Hong Lei said when asked about the US plans announced on Friday.

"We hope that the relevant parties will... adopt a responsible attitude and deal with this issue in a cautious manner," he said, adding: "China has always sought to prevent missile proliferation."

His remarks came days after US Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel vowed to in-

crease by almost half the number of interceptors stationed in Alaska, following Pyongyang's threat of a "pre-emptive" nuclear attack against its arch-foe. He also confirmed plans to increase missile defence facilities in Japan.

China is North Korea's sole major ally and main trading partner. But it has repeatedly expressed opposition to Pyongyang's nuclear program and has voted to support sanctions at the United Nations, while urging diplomatic solutions.

Analysts say China above all values political stability in North Korea, fearful of a potential influx of migrants and a united Korean peninsula with a US military presence which might follow the collapse of the Pyongyang regime.

## A gala unveiling for the restored San Nicolas Water Tower Landmark

The tallest structure within the town of San Nicolas, after long years of neglect, stood proud and shining in the setting sun as the residents of Aruba's eastern end gathered to celebrate the completion of this historic edifice on Friday evening, March 15.

The unveiling of the "Watertoren," or Water Tower, erected in 1939 to provide water to the town of San Nicolas, was a festive affair attended by island dignitaries and welcomed by the surrounding community. It marks the first of many projects promised by the current administration to revitalize interest in Aruba's east end for more than just its beaches. Aruba's Minister of Finance, Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy, Mike de Meza, affirmed the necessity of preserving these monuments of island history for the next generation as well as the enjoyment of island visitors.

The Water Tower is adorned at the summit with the letters "LWV" which stand for "Landswatervoorziening," the original incarnation of WEB, Aruba's desalination plant. Prior to it being founded in Balashi, the island's fresh water was obtained from wells and cisterns catching rain water.

Continued on page 2



## Plaza Turismo proves a beautiful addition to Oranjestad

It may have been somewhat overdue, but those attending the morning festivities for the official opening of the Plaza Turismo, on Sunday, March 17, the "jewel in the crown" of what will eventually be the longest linear park in the Caribbean, had to admit it was worth the wait.

The official ceremony of this elegant addition to L.G. Smith Boulevard included the unveiling of an impressive centerpiece featuring the island's official logo. It is a colorful creation that will greet vacationers to Aruba almost immediately upon entering Oranjestad, and will most certainly attract visitors to the plaza.

"Bon Trabao!" (Good Work!) declared Aruba's Prime Minister Mike Eman of the dedication and energy by Aruba's Minister of Tourism, Transport and Labor, Otmar Oduber, for his steadfast attention to seeing this project completed.

Continued on page 5



The Park is officially open

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## San Nicolas Water Tower Landmark

Continued from page 1



**Berta Janga**



**Ladies of the Monument Fund and Monument Bureau**

LWV existed from 1931-1956, when it became the "Water-voorzieningsdienst" or "WVD" until 1961, and was then renamed Water-en Energiebedrijf Aruba, "WEB" when it was combined with the island's energy producing plant.

W.E.B. N.V., and ELMAR N.V., the island's power distribution entity. The financing was obtained by the Monument Fund Foundation, represented during the unveiling by Director Anne Witsenburg de Jong, which administrates

Aruba's landmarks and interfaces between engineering, finance, historical background and cultural context.

Addressing the San Nicolas community during the opening event were the Minister of Infrastructure, Immigration and Environment, Benny Sevinger, Minister de Meza and Prime Minister Mike Eman, on the significance of this project. Mrs. Berta Janga, who has maintained her



**SN Poet Laureate Roland Peterson**  
**with Michelle Brooks**

Restoration of Water Tower was a project of Aruba's Monument Bureau, under Director Yvonne Webb, who spoke for President Rene Kan in expressing their satisfaction at the completion of the project "early and under budget." She thanked the principal sponsors, Aruba Airport Authority, SETAR N.V., Aruba's national telecommunication company,

flower shop in San Nicolas for over 35 years, spoke of her childhood memories of the building, and pride in seeing this beautiful example of Art Deco architectural design restored to its original glory. The architect of the restoration was Earon Matthew and overseeing the project and the San Nicolas community connection was Ramon Arrindel. During the



**MC Clyde Burke**

event, Michele Brooks, currently with the government's HR Department, read a touching poem titled "Stranded in Time" by the town's "Poet Laureate" Roland Peterson. His works often reflect on San Nicolas life, and what it was like to grow up in this multicultural and historic part of Aruba.

Coming on the heels of the opening of the San Nicolas Community Museum, the Water Tower is a symbol of the revitalization of San Nicolas, its surroundings and economy. Both were welcomed and hailed by the residents as heralding a new era of interest in the town, which, like the Water Tower, has suffered some neglect over the past decades.

**Rosalie Klein**

## Police enforcing strict measures for traffic violators

ORANJESTAD -- Up to today there are motorists on our roads driving in total defiance of the traffic laws. These persons have to date not paid the required automobile taxes and are without the new 2013 number plates, others have no valid drivers' license and still others are driving without the required car insurance or auto inspection certificate. The Public Prosecutor is advising the general public that they intend to put an end to these flagrant violations and that the Police will be controlling in earnest as of today and that the sanctions will be severe.

According to the revised traffic regulations, any automobile apprehended without the new license plates will be taken into custody by the Police. The Police may also confiscate a vehicle driven by someone who cannot show the auto inspection certificate or someone who is under the influence of alcohol. The Police may also confiscate a vehicle being driven without the required auto insurance or if the person is driving beyond the maximum speed limit per hour. Vehicles confiscated by the police will be towed and stationed at the Police Station at Balashi.

There are charges for towing and putting a vehicle in police custody. These charges will be

for the account of the vehicle owner. The cost for towing a vehicle is Afls.175 and the custody charges are Afls.25 per day. In addition to these charges there are the fines for the traffic violations. The fine for not having the new number plates is Afls.200. A simple sum of the damages will look like this: 175 + 25 + 200, which will amount to a whopping Afls.400! Also, keep in mind that the vehicle will not be released to the owner until he can prove that all outstanding requirements have been fully met.

Imagine if your vehicle was confiscated on the weekend, this means that your daily custody charges will be at least three times more than normal since you will not be able to get the required documents and pay for the number plates during the weekend when every office is closed.

Automobiles will also be towed away and placed in police custody if these are parked in a no parking zone. The fine for a wrongly parked car is Afls.175. On top of this fine the towing charges and the custody charge will be added.

All in all it is wise to comply with all the traffic regulations and the requirements for owning and operating a vehicle.

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## Aruba National Day celebrations begin by honoring the petitioners for independence



PM Eman addresses the audience

tonomy within the Dutch Kingdom.

In the shadow of his father's statue, "Shon A (Albert) Eman," Aruba's Prime Minister Mike Eman welcomed not only politicians and government officials, but around a dozen of the original signatories of the petition presented by his father to the Dutch government



Remaining living signers of the Petition for Aruban independence



Berto Pablo

during the famous round-table talks in The Hague on March 18, 1948. The monument is dedicated to that occasion, and the slabs of granite that flank the statue are etched with the 2147 names of those who signed the request that Aruba be independent of the other islands of the Netherlands Antilles. It was the Prime Minister's grandfather, Jan Hendrik "Henny" Eman, who founded the AVP Party and rallied the petitioners to the concept. Unfortunately, it was not to be, when

that entity was formed in 1951.

Saturday's honoring included the launching of a special book commissioned by PM Eman's administration,



Wreath on behalf of the Eman Family

"March 18, 1948, Flag of Honor and Recognition." A special commission, headed by Berto Pablo, was charged with finding the original signers of the petition and collecting their stories. As is to be expected, only a handful are surviving, but were proudly honored during this year's wreath placing ceremony at the monument. The decedents of those who passed on were present in their memory. One, the 13 year-old great-grandson of Jose Omar Luydens, Steve Geerman, was a featured performer for the evening. Not only did the young man prove to have a delightful voice, but a sincere in-



On behalf of the government.



Talented singer Steve Geerman, a great grandson of a signatore

terest in island history and traditions, being the youth winner of the National Patriotic Song contest and choosing to dress in the style typical to gentleman in the era of Shon Albert Eman.

Prime Minister Eman personally presented to each of those who are featured in the book or their descendants a

copy, which he was happy to inscribe after the ceremony. This first edition showcased 1500 of those who signed the petition, and they expect to print an appendix within a year after compiling a history and obtain pictures of the remaining 647.

Continued on page 5

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## New uniforms for civil servants of Police Force



For several years, Chief of the Police Force has had the desire to introduce a uniform code for civil personnel of the organization. Over the past years this was not possible, but they have finally succeeded in making this concrete this year. During the past week we were able to see members of the civil staff smartly donned in their sparkling new uniforms. This certainly reflects the professionalism of our Police Force and gives the corps a new and pleasant image.

According to the Police Chief, the uniform is another step in improving the working conditions of the organization. The Oranjestad INTERPOL Bureau also sports a new uniform slightly different with the logo of INTERPOL affixed to the shirt and blouse.

The uniform for the civil



staff is primarily a blue pants, shirt and blouse and a jacket for the women. Affixed to the shirt, and blouse is the logo of the Police Corps in dark blue with white for men. For the women this is a bit more colorful. Accompanying photos show some staff donned in their new outfits.

## Cinnamon Bakery Café and Carvel Ice Cream is now open

Last week, after much anticipation and in a great ambiance, Cinnamon Bakery Café and Carvel Ice Cream opened their doors officially on L.G. Smith Boulevard. To celebrate this special occasion press members were invited to come and try out the delicious treats Cinnabon's Bakery Café has to offer. They also tasted the delicious Carvel ice-cream.

Besides the famous Classic Cinnabon Roll, Cinnabon also offers 'sliders.' This sandwich is made of the same dough used for the cinnabon and is well liked for breakfast, lunch or a snack. This is a great option for those clients who does not favor sweet, but are still able to enjoy something delicious. There are 5 different sliders on the menu at the moment which are: Egg with bacon or sausage, ham & cheese, chicken, roast beef or turkey. Besides this famous new slider Cinnabon have premium products such as the minibon, bites, cupcakes, chillattas, cinnastix and their delicious coffee.

Everyone present at the opening tasted the tremendous ice-cream cake of Carvel made of: vanilla ice-cream, chocolate crunch and chocolate. The cake is available in different sizes and designs and is prepared daily at the store. One can also order based on a special theme.

And Carvel's famous 'soft serve' ice-cream cannot be forgotten: a smooth creamy ice-



cream which can be combined with different toppings in a cup or cone. It is also available as a brown bonnet which is soft serve dipped in chocolate sauce.

The new location right next to Wendy's on the L.G. Smith Boulevard is open 7 days a week from 7 am to 10 p.m. and offers Wi-Fi connection completely free.

As a special opening promo

Cinnamon Bakery Café and Carvel Ice Cream is offering until the end of March with every purchase of a slider or a soft serve a second slider or soft serve completely FREE! So everyone is invited to take advantage of this great offer while valid.

For more information visit [facebook.com/CinnabonAruba](https://facebook.com/CinnabonAruba) or [facebook.com/CarvelIceCreamAruba](https://facebook.com/CarvelIceCreamAruba).







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## Petitioners for independence

*Continued from page 3*

Prior to unveiling the book, the annual ritual of placing memorial wreaths was performed by Prime Minister Eman accompanied by Secretary of the Cabinet of Ministers, Nicole Hoevertsz, on behalf of the Aruban Government.

A wreath from the AVP Political Party was placed by Vice President of Parliament Chris Dammers joined by Clarisca Velasquez. The March 18 Monument Foundation was represented by Director Mary Wever-Lacle and her grandchildren. The Eman Family wreath was placed by the newest generation, young brothers Sam and David Eman.

This year, the official memorial event had a special significance, conveyed the Prime Minister, in not only remembering a few, but all those in the community whose support for their leaders encouraged them to take up fight for Aruba's right to self-direction. Though not officially realized until 1986, it was the key element to the island's continuing prosperity and development.

## Plaza Turismo proves a beautiful addition to Oranjestad

*Continued from page 1*



**Winners of the Aruba Patriotic song contest 2013**  
**Michel Almary and Maya Marin**

The Prime Minister congratulated all his ministers on the many projects they have initiated since taking office since 2009, and sacrificed so much of their personal time and relationships to see realized.

Minister Oduber in turn called for a standing ovation for the young, visionary architect of the Plaza Turismo and Linear Park, Rafi Kock. The park will eventually stretch from the Reina Beatrix International Airport to Malmok, beyond the Ritz-Carlton Resort. The roads bordering the Caribbean will be filled with smaller plazas, biking and jogging paths, ample rest, refuse and sanitation facilities, showcasing Aruba's great attractions of sea and shoreline.

The official opening of the Plaza Turismo included all the

aspects of island life that they hope to see it fulfill. Thousands came to enjoy meals from the refreshment concessions and musical and dance performances throughout the day. The Ministry of Public Health and Sports, under Minister Dr. Richard Visser, arranged for the presence of the Bus di Salud, which provides free medical testing, as well as various sporting events on the plaza's surroundings.

In a flurry of confetti to officially open the park, Minister Oduber presented a memento to Prime Minister Eman of the event, which was distributed to key dignitaries as well. The rest of the day the entire community enjoyed the various festivities organized by the Santa Rosa Center.

*Rosalie Klein*



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**Linear Park Architect Rafi Kock and ATA CEO Ronella Tjin Asjoe-Croes**



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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### \$4 million in marijuana found on Santa Barbara beach



**SANTA BARBARA :** AFP handout image provided by the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Office in California shows bales of Marijuana that washed up on Arroyo Camada Beach near Refugio State Beach. Narcotics detectives recovered 50 plastic-wrapped bales of marijuana, weighing approximately 2,000 pounds (746kg), with an estimated street value of 4 million USD after a drug smuggling boat washed ashore. Upon arrival, investigators located an apparently abandoned 30 foot "Panga" style boat with 2 outboard engines and more than 20 fuel containers on board. Investigators located a significant amount of evidence that was consistent with marijuana smuggling activities, including trash and debris that was strewn about the beach and nearby coastal access trails.

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## Hillary Clinton backs gay marriage

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Former US secretary of state Hillary Clinton, who may be eyeing a run in the 2016 presidential election, came off the sidelines yesterday and announced her support for gay marriage.

While Clinton pushed gay, lesbian and transgender (LGBT) rights during her four-year tenure as America's top diplomat, considering them human rights, she had not until now advocated for same-sex marriage.

"LGBT Americans are our colleagues, our teachers, our soldiers, our friends, our loved ones. And they are full and equal citizens, and deserve the rights of citizenship. That includes marriage," she says in a nearly six-minute video.

"That's why I support marriage for lesbian and gay couples. I support it personally and as a matter of policy and

law, embedded in a broader effort to advance equality and opportunity for LGBT Americans and all Americans."

The video was released by the Human Rights Campaign, a civil rights organization working for gays rights.

It came just days after Clinton's husband, former US president Bill Clinton, urged the Supreme Court to overturn a bill he signed in 1996 defining marriage as a union between a man and a woman, calling it "discriminatory."

During her failed 2008 White House bid, Hillary Clinton stopped short of endorsing gay marriage, favoring civil unions instead.

In the video, she acknowledges that "like so many others my personal views have been shaped over time," saying they had been changed by conversations and personal experiences, as well as "by the guiding principles of my

faith."

"Marriage after all is a fundamental building block of our society, a great joy and yes, a great responsibility," Clinton says. "To deny the opportunity to any of our daughters and sons solely on the basis of who they are and who they love is to deny them the chance to live up to their own God-given potential."

Clinton stepped down on February 1, and polls show that if she throws her hat into the ring to be the Democratic Party nominee in the 2016 election, she would have a strong edge over any other candidate.

"She is in both parties right now by far, I think, the most interesting candidate, probably the strongest candidate," Obama's former White House election aide David Plouffe said during a Sunday interview.

## US denies any Venezuela plot

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The United States yesterday emphatically denied it was involved in any plot against Venezuelan opposition leader Henrique Capriles ahead of the April 14 presidential vote.

"Let me say it here extremely clearly... the United States categorically rejects allegations of any US government involvement in any plots to destabilize the Venezuelan government or to harm anyone in Venezuela," State Department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland said.

Capriles, whom the late president Hugo Chavez defeated in October elections, is running in the upcoming election against Vice President Nicolas Maduro, Chavez's handpicked successor.

Maduro told the private Televen station at the weekend the US-planned plot aims to "blame the government" for an attack and "create chaos in

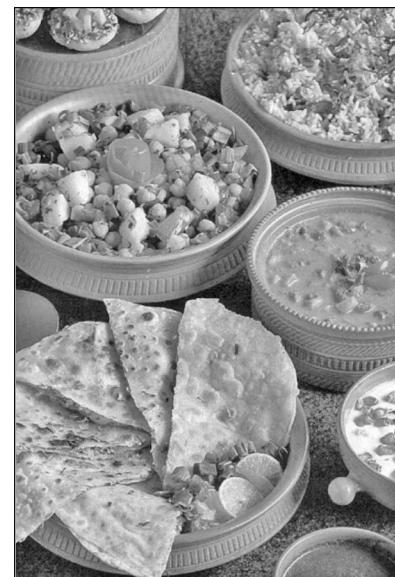
Venezuela."

He accused the CIA and the Pentagon, as well as former US diplomats Roger Noriega and Otto Reich, who also served as US ambassador to Venezuela, of planning the scheme.

Maduro also alleged opposition groups were involved,

and vowed his government would provide "protection for all presidential candidates," and in particular Capriles.

But Capriles, the governor of Miranda state, took to Twitter to say Maduro would be to blame for "anything that happens."



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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### Argentine president asks pope to mediate in Falklands

VATICAN CITY (AFP) - Argentine President Cristina Kirchner yesterday asked compatriot Pope Francis to mediate in the Falkland Islands' dispute with Britain at the new pontiff's first talks with a head of state, as world leaders flew in for his inauguration mass.

"I asked his intervention to promote dialogue between the two sides," Kirchner told reporters after meeting Latin America's first pope in the Vatican, warning against a growing "militarisation" in the South Atlantic.

Kirchner noted that Pope John Paul II had mediated in a similar dispute between Argentina and Chile -- when the two countries nearly went to war over the islands of the Beagle channel in 1978.

Argentine media have quoted Francis, former archbishop of Buenos Aires Jorge Bergoglio, as telling reporters in 2011 that the Falklands, known as the Malvinas in Argentina, are "ours".

British Prime Minister David Cameron said Friday that he "respectfully" disagreed with those comments. In a referendum this month, 99.8 percent of the Falkland islands' inhabitants voted to remain British. The sparsely populated archipelago triggered a war between Britain and Argentina in 1982.

"We have a very different historic opportunity now, much more favourable. In both countries, Britain and Argentina, there are democracies," Kirchner said.

### Heavy rains leave 13 dead in Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO (AFP) - Landslides triggered by heavy rains have killed 13 people over the past 24 hours in the Brazilian tourist town of Petropolis, an official said yesterday.

"We are in a state of maximum alert," Rio state governor Sergio Cabral told a news as he updated the death toll from 10.

He urged residents to leave high risk areas and to seek refuge in shelters provided by city authorities amid worsening downpours.

Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff, in Rome to attend Tuesday's installment of Pope Francis, called Cabral to offer federal help to deal with the impact of the flooding, her office said.

Sergio Simoes, the Rio state civil defense secretary, de-

scribed the situation in the town, where emperor Pedro II and his court used to spend the summer, as "very serious."

"The continuing rains heighten the risks of mudslides. There are many vulnerable areas in the mountainous region and as a result we are very concerned," he said.

Up to 390 millimeters (15 inches) of rain have fallen in some city districts in the past 24 hours, when only 270 millimeters were anticipated for all of March.

Petropolis Mayor Rubens Bomtempo urged residents to remain indoors and warned of the possibility of more landslides.

A civil defense statement said the rains also affected other Rio state towns, including Angra dos Reis, Mangaratiba, Niteroi and Teresopolis.

### Cuba declares holiday on Good Friday

HAVANA (AFP) - Cuba's communist government yesterday declared a holiday on Good Friday for the second year in a row without mentioning the day's religious significance to Christians.

The gesture came days after President Raul Castro welcomed the appointment of Pope Francis as the first-ever Latin American pontiff, and

follows a thawing in relations between communist Cuba and the church in recent years.

Last year the Cuban government observed a holiday on Good Friday, which commemorates Jesus's crucifixion, as an "exceptional" gesture following a request by Pope Benedict XVI, who had just visited the island in

March.

"The leadership of the country has approved a pause in work activities on Friday, March 29," the Communist Party daily Granma said yesterday. Certain sectors were excluded from the decree.

The Cuban conference of bishops welcomed the announcement.



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## Health & Living

# Kidney disease on Aruba is alarming!

On World Kidney Day, Hospital director, Jaime Falconi, along with Nephrologists Dr. Ann Colson and Dr. Romeo Kock, took time out to share information concerning the situation of Kidney disease on Aruba.

According to Dr. Falconi, the situation on Aruba is alarming, better said dramatic. Aruba is fifth on the list of countries in the world with such a high percentage of patients needing dialysis, and every month two or three new cases are being diagnosed. This means that even with the expansion of two centers for dialysis, which is currently taking place, by 2014 we will not have the capacity for dialysis of all patients on Aruba. Currently there are 8 to 9 patients who have been sent abroad for treatment, simply because we do not have the amount of required chairs to accommodate all patients.

Aruba has 150 to 160 patients receiving dialysis. Fact is that about 85% of these patients reach their doctor much too late and the only option left is to begin dialysis treatment, either at home at the Hospital or at Clinica Posada. Clinica Posada was recently acquired by IMSAN and will soon be moved to San Nicolaas, according to Dr. Falconi.



The Kidneys are very important organs and in the majority of cases when a person begins to feel sick it is probably already too late to bring about a cure and the patient is required to begin dialysis.

When the Kidneys are no longer functioning, if not treated the person will die in a relatively short time and the treatment to keep them alive is dialysis.

The doctors advice that since the majority of Kidney patients are also diabetic and/or suffer from hypertension, they must be aware of the situation and take their medications exactly as prescribed and do regular medical controls.

It is very important for persons who fall into the risk group for suffering from Kidney dis-

ease to take their situation seriously. They should take the simple blood and urine tests to detect whatever problem early enough. In this way, their primary care physician can deal with whatever challenges in time to avoid dialysis. Dialysis can have a major impact on the life of a person, as well as the cost of treatment being extremely expensive for the budget of the health department.

Dr. Kock says, "...live a healthy life and eat healthy to maintain a healthy body." It requires the cooperation of everyone, including primary care physicians and other health providers, but especially and primarily the patient in order to prevent damage to the Kidneys and a life tied to a dialysis program.

## Parental concerns rise over HPV vaccine: study

WASHINGTON (AFP) - A growing number of US parents oppose doctors' recommendations to vaccinate teenage girls against human papillomavirus (HPV), the main cause of cervical cancer, a study said Monday.

Parents cited reasons such as believing their child was too young or not sexually active, concerns about safety and side effects, or lack of knowledge about the vaccine, said the study in the journal Pediatrics.

In 2008, 40 percent of parents surveyed said they did not want the HPV vaccine for their daughters. In 2010, that figure rose to 44 percent.

"That's the opposite direction that rate should be going," said senior researcher Robert Jacobson, a pediatrician with the Mayo Clinic Children's Center, noting that studies have continually shown the HPV vaccine to be safe and effective.

"HPV causes essentially 100 percent of cervical cancer and 50 percent of all Americans get infected at least once with HPV. It's a silent infection. You cannot tell when you've been exposed or when you have it," he said.

"While most HPV infections clear, a percentage linger and start the process of cancerous changes. The HPV

vaccine is an anti-cancer vaccine."

Still, the number of young women getting vaccinated is on the rise -- 16 percent of teenage girls in 2008 compared to one third in 2010, said the study.

The analysis came from national vaccination data for those age 13 to 17 in the 2008-10 National Immunization Survey of Teens.

The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that girls and boys age 11 to 12 get vaccinated against HPV, as well as women up to age 26 and men up to age 21 if they were not vaccinated when they were younger.

The CDC also recommends the HPV vaccine -- which is typically administered in three separate shots over six months -- for men who have sex with men.

HPV vaccines are "safe and effective" and have been "tested in thousands of people around the world," the CDC said on its website.

"These studies showed no serious side effects. Common, mild side effects included pain where the shot was given, fever, headache and nausea."

HPV has been linked to cervical cancer, genital warts and cancers of the penis, anus and throat.



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### Web pioneers win inaugural \$1.5 mn engineering prize

LONDON (AFP) - Five engineers who helped create the Internet were on Monday awarded a \$1.5 million prize which British organisers hope will come to be seen as equivalent to a Nobel prize for engineering.

Robert Kahn, Vinton Cerf and Marc Andreessen of the United States will share the first ever £1 million (1.2 million euro) Queen Elizabeth Prize for Engineering with Louis Pouzin of France and Tim Berners-Lee of Britain.

"The emergence of the Internet and the web involved many teams of people all over the world," said Alec Broers, chair of the judging panel.

"However, these five visionary engineers, never before honoured together as a group, led the key developments that shaped the Internet and web as a coherent system and brought them into public use."

Britain's Queen Elizabeth II, who gives her name to the prize, will present the award to the winners in a formal ceremony in London in June.

Organisers said Kahn, Cerf and Pouzin had made "seminal" contributions to the design and protocols that make up the fundamental architecture of the Internet.

Berners-Lee invented the World Wide Web, the information-sharing system built on top of the Internet which allows us to use it in the way we do today.

Andreessen, meanwhile, created the first widely-used web browser, Mosaic.

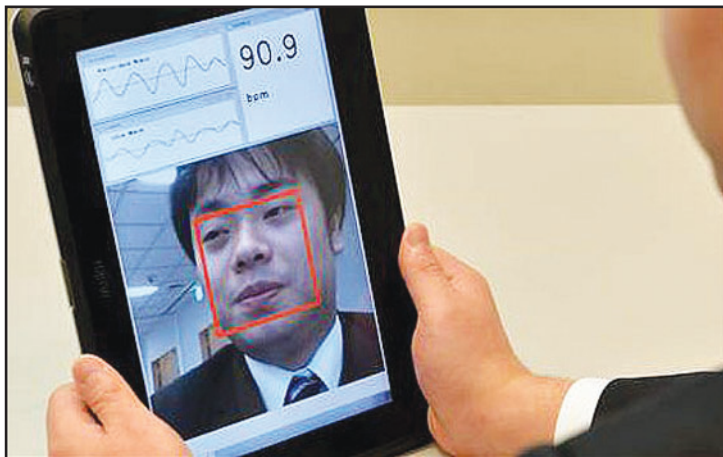
Microsoft founder Bill Gates was among those who pushed for the inaugural prize to be granted to Internet pioneers.

"It would be difficult to point to any significant human endeavour that has not been touched profoundly through the invention and deployment of the Internet," he said.

Around a third of the world's population use the Internet today, according to UN figures.

## Sci-Tech

### Japan's Fujitsu says smartphones can take your pulse



TOKYO, March 18, 2013 (AFP) - A smartphone that can take the pulse of a user just by looking at his or her face was unveiled in Japan on Monday.

Technology giant Fujitsu plans to put the invention to practical use within a year, enabling people at work or at home to track their health and collect data for analysis without wearing special devices.

The smartphone works by measuring variations in the brightness of a person's face caused by the flow of blood.

Researchers say countless tiny blood vessels run through the face, enabling monitoring of haemoglobin which absorbs green light. Haemoglobin is a protein found in red blood cells that contains iron and transports oxygen.

Simply pointing a camera at a person's face for as little

as five seconds will enable pulse-taking, while the technology automatically filters out the effect of head movements or changes caused by standing up quickly.

"Even at a busy workplace, or any time a person is sitting in front of a PC, whether for teleconferencing or writing e-mails, their pulse can be measured during brief moments of quiet," the company said in a press release.

"At home, a camera built into a TV can measure the pulse of people relaxing in front of it, or a mirror, for when people are getting ready in the morning," it said.

"Pulse detectors built into gates at event sites or control points at airports could be a possible security application by detecting people in ill health and people acting suspiciously."

### UAE opens world's largest CSP solar power plant

MADINAT ZAYED, United Arab Emirates (AFP) - Oil-rich Abu Dhabi on Sunday officially opened the world's largest Concentrated Solar Power (CSP) plant, which cost \$600 million to build and will provide electricity to 20,000 homes.

The 100-megawatt Shams 1 is "the world's largest concentrated solar power plant in operation" said Sultan al-Jaber, the head of Abu Dhabi's Masdar, which oversees the emirate's plan to generate seven percent of its energy needs by 2020 from renewable sources.

"Today, Shams 1 is the largest CSP plant in all terms," said Santiago Seage, chief executive officer of Abengoa Solar, one of the partners in the project.

Several solar plants around the world use photovoltaic technology to harness solar power.

Masdar now produces 10 percent of the world's concentrated solar power, he said during the official inauguration.

The solar park features long lines of parabolic mirrors spread over an area equivalent to 285 football pitches in the desert of the Western Region, some 120 kilometres (75 miles) southwest of Abu Dhabi.

Masdar owns 60 percent of the project, while France's Total and Spain's Abengoa Solar own 20 percent each.

Abu Dhabi is the wealthiest of the seven sheikhdoms that make up the federation of the United Arab Emirates.

### Scientists find active community at Earth's deepest spot

PARIS, (AFP) - Scientists said Sunday they had discovered an unexpectedly large and active community of single-cell organisms living on the Pacific sea floor at the deepest site on Earth.

The "surprisingly active" community of microbes exists about 11 kilometres (seven miles) below sea level in the Mariana Trench, one of the world's most inaccessible places, some 200 miles southwest of the Pacific island of Guam.

Surprisingly, researchers found the trench housed almost 10 times more bacteria than a nearby six-kilometre deep site, living on organic waste from dead sea animals, algae and other microbes that settle on the ocean floor.

Many scientists had thought that the deeper the floor below sea level, the more deprived it would be of food -- which has to float all the way from the oxygen-rich surface to the bottom of the ocean.





## COMICS

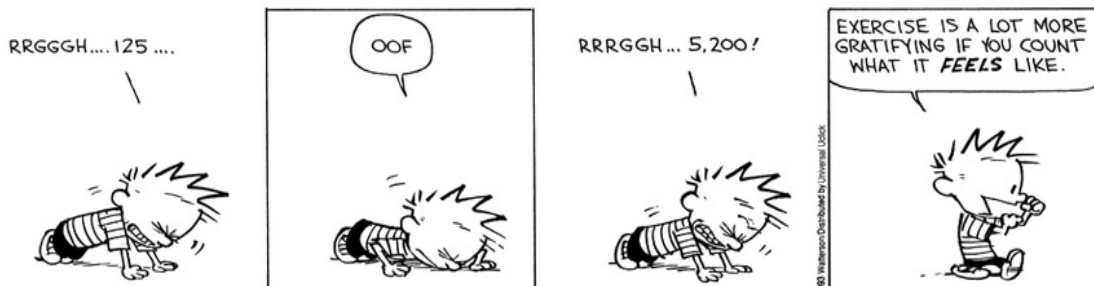
## PICKLES



## MOMMA



## CALVIN and HOBBS



## CROSSWORD

## ACROSS

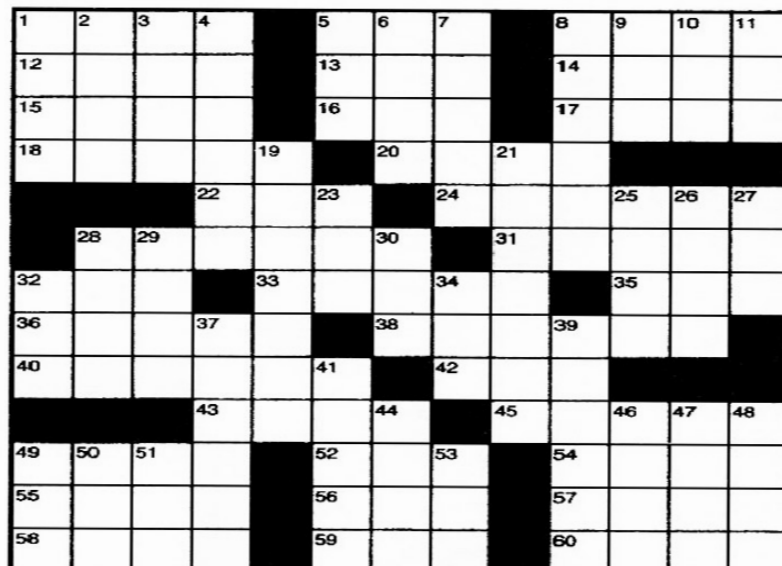
1. Baby's sleeping spot
5. Cole Hamels's org.
8. Car sound
12. Olympus queen
13. IM provider
14. Soften
15. Hip to (2 wds.)
16. Lennon's widow
17. Meat fat
18. Bracer
20. Asian desert
22. Ship's pronoun
24. Demure
28. Zeus's warrior daughter
31. Georgia beauty
32. Intense rage
33. Sharpened
35. Recline
36. Case or well preceder
38. Married in Vegas, maybe
40. Connecticut seaport
42. Common virus
43. Auctioneer's shout
45. Nudging joint
49. Like mature fruit
52. Charged particle
54. Mineral deposit
55. Aloud

## DOWN

1. Marker
2. Clinton AG Janet
3. Golf club
4. Cast out
5. \_\_\_ jacket ('60s style)
6. Like Rapunzel's hair
7. Open up, as a bud
8. Abutting
9. \_\_\_ de cologne
10. WNW's opp.
11. Tame animal
19. Fleet Street farewell
21. 1996 Presidential candidate (2 wds.)
23. Remnant
25. Fashion model Macpherson
26. Slithered
27. Golfer's peg
28. Like a Bohemian
29. Lipton beverages
30. Ripen
32. Suffix for a doctrine
34. Gnome
37. "...thing we have to fear is

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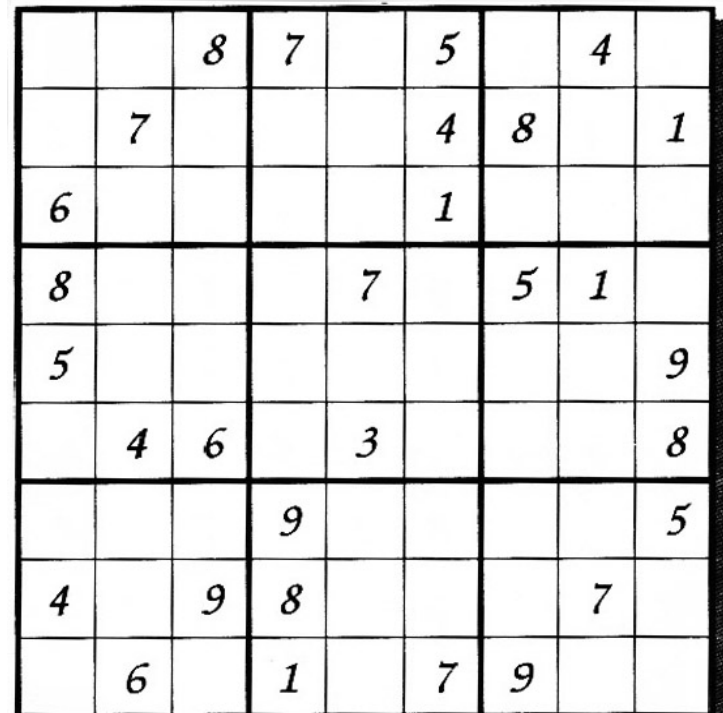
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# Sudoku



SOLUTION

8	6	4	1	5	9	2	7	3
2	1	9	5	8	6	3	4	7
5	9	7	2	6	1	8	3	4
8	2	6	3	5	9	7	1	4
6	5	9	8	1	7	2	3	4
1	5	2	7	9	6	8	3	4
4	6	1	8	2	7	5	9	3
1	5	8	7	9	2	6	3	4
9	7	2	5	6	4	8	1	3

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9  
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.  
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9





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## Finance

### Fed likely to stay course as Cyprus roils markets

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The Federal Reserve looked set to keep its loose monetary policy in place this week as a shock Cyprus plan to seize bank deposits stoked fears of a reigniting eurozone banking crisis.

The Fed was widely expected to announce tomorrow, after a two-day policy meeting, that it will continue to pump \$85 billion a month into bond purchases to support the US economy.

The Federal Open Market Committee also was all but certain to reiterate that its record-low interest rate, between zero and 0.25 percent, would remain until the labor market improves "substantially" in a context of price stability around 2.0 percent.

Despite a string of encouraging data, particularly in jobs growth and the housing market, the economy remains too tepid for the FOMC policy makers to change course now, analysts say.

Gross domestic product growth was merely 0.1 percent in the fourth quarter and although there are signs it has picked up, momentum was "modest to moderate" recently, according to the latest Fed Beige Book.

Nevertheless, the minutes of the January FOMC meeting revealed some participants were concerned about the costs

and the risks of the accommodative monetary policy, saying it could spark a jump in inflation.

Fed watchers were expected to pore over the FOMC statement for any sign the Fed may be looking more closely at winding down the stimulus.

The FOMC meeting that opens today is the first since the government's massive across-the-board spending cuts kicked in on March 1.

The impact of the so-called "sequester" spending cuts was not immediately clear, but they could lead the FOMC to revise downward their projections for 2013 growth when they release new forecasts tomorrow, Barclays analysts said.

Economists estimate that the fully implemented cuts -- slashing \$85 billion over seven months -- will drain about a 0.5 percentage point from US growth this year.

With unemployment still a high 7.7 percent, the cuts could also cost some 750,000 jobs, the White House estimates. Fed chairman Ben Bernanke has repeatedly defended the central bank's accommodative policy as necessary as long as unemployment remains high.

Meanwhile the fresh Cyprus turmoil could keep the FOMC focused on the ongoing risks of the European financial crisis to the US economy.

### Oil prices slide on Cyprus bailout

LONDON (AFP) - Oil prices slumped yesterday on weak demand concerns and fears of an escalation in the eurozone debt crisis after bloc member Cyprus said it planned to tax bank deposits to raise bailout cash, analysts said.

Brent North Sea crude for delivery in May was down 55 cents at \$109.27 a barrel in late London deals, pulling back from a three-month low of \$107.78 earlier in the day.

New York's main contract, light sweet crude for April, fell 15 cents to \$93.30 a barrel after losses of more than a dollar.

Eurozone finance ministers and the International Monetary Fund on Saturday agreed on a

10 billion-euro (\$13-billion) bailout deal for Cyprus, the fifth eurozone member to be saved from bankruptcy.

Under the deal, deposits of more than 100,000 euros could be hit with a 9.9-percent charge and one of 6.75 percent for anything below the threshold.

An EU source in Brussels said Nicosia and international creditors were busy discussing changes to the levy, as Cyprus's parliament postponed until today a session to vote on the deal which has triggered outrage in Cyprus.

Germany said that it was up to the Cyprus government to decide how to finance the EU lifeline of about 10 billion euros, the first eurozone rescue that foresees private depositors having to help foot the bill.

Crude prices were falling on "increased risk aversion in the wake of the controversial bailout package for Cyprus at the weekend," said Commerzbank analyst Carsten Fritsch.

"In the short term the pressure is likely to continue as further financial investors are expected to withdraw from the market."

President Nicos Anastasiades on Sunday called the controversial proposal the "least painful" option for the island,

as rejecting the EU demands could force Cyprus to leave the eurozone and sink into bankruptcy.

DBS Group Research said "the issue is not as simple as whether the Cypriot government supports the bailout. The market is worried that it may send the wrong message on the safety of bank deposits in other EU nations."

Europe's two top economies yesterday insisted that it was Cyprus's proposal to slap a levy on all Cypriot bank savings under an EU bailout deal and appeared to suggest it review the contested plan.

France and Germany, as well as the European Central Bank (ECB) based in the German city of Frankfurt, emphasised that they were not behind the move which has caused stock markets to slump and again stoked debt crisis fears.

Oil market sentiment was meanwhile hit also by a key index on Friday that showed a dip in US consumer confidence, possibly pointing to a slowdown in household spending.

The University of Michigan confidence index for early March fell to 71.8 from 77.6 in February, against forecasts that predicted a rise.

### HSBC mulls thousands more job cuts

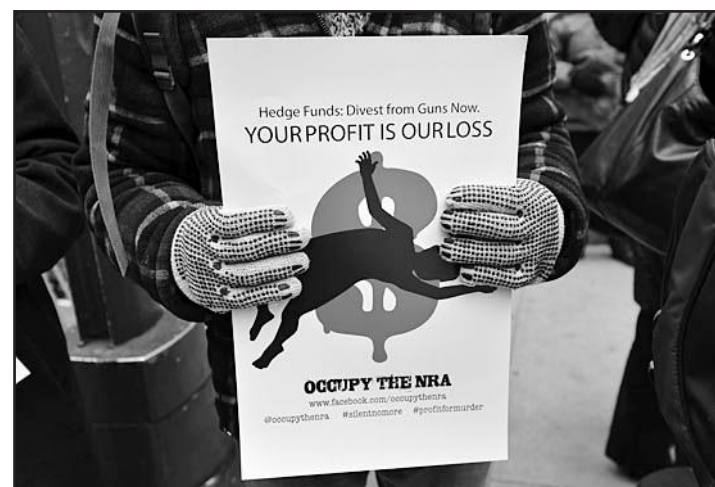
LONDON (AFP) - HSBC could cut up to another 5,000 jobs as Europe's biggest bank looks to find further savings, the Financial Times reported yesterday.

The business daily said HSBC -- Europe's largest bank by market value -- was set to outline the next stage of a strategic overhaul at an investor day in May.

Cutting 5,000 posts would help the London-headquartered lender make savings of \$1.0 billion (774 million euros) -- a target chief executive Stuart Gulliver wants to achieve this year.

Earlier this month, HSBC announced that it had exceeded its target of saving up to \$3.5 billion over two years -- by axing 30,000 jobs globally. At the same time, it said that group net profit sank 16.5 percent to \$14.03 billion in 2012, hit by US money-laundering fines, mis-selling scandals, rising tax costs and a huge accounting charge.

Founded in Hong Kong, HSBC currently sees Asia as its main market.



**NEW YORK : AFP photo shows a person holding a poster as Occupy The NRA demonstrate outside the headquarters of Owl Creek Management on Fifth Avenue in New York yesterday. The group protests investments in gun manufacturer companies.**



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## Eat like a local at The Queen's restaurant at Palm Beach Plaza



Grandma's classic Stew beef with Rice and Potato salad

An elegant décor with a breezy terrace overlooking Palm Beach welcomes guests to Varella Innocencia's very popular restaurant showcasing authentic local cuisine: **The Queen's**.

They may have moved from Oranjestad to hipper new digs in Palm Beach Plaza, but the food and prices are strictly native, which is what first won this charming eatery their loyal clientele. Varella's mom, Luisa, is still in the kitchen, conjuring up the delicious dishes that have been in her family for generations, acknowledged on the menu with items such as "Carni Stoba di Mamachi" - "Grandma's Beef Stew," and their Arawak Steak, along with local delicacies like Keshi Yena - "Full Cheese." This is a tasty, filling stew of chicken, with other ingredients that are handy that day, all incased in a thick skin of melted Gouda. It was very satisfying and particularly memorable paired with The Queen's garlic bread and very special Pica, a mix of chopped onions and the famous local hot pepper, Madame Janette. Not overly spicy, it lends that perfect bit of

tang to this deliciously picturesque meal.

One of the distinctions of Aruban cuisine is incorporating unique indigenous ingredi-



Varella, Luisa and the next generation of chef

ents such as in Wild Cucumber Stew and a particular light fish chowder accompanied by the local specialties pan bati (corn meal pancake) and funchi (the local version of polenta.)

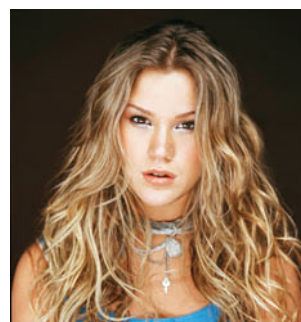
Seafood main courses for Catch of the Day Aruban Style to shrimp and a mixed seafood platter with shrimp, fish, squid, scallops and mussels. Meat dishes such as BBQ Chicken and Ribs or Grilled Tenderloin,

each including a choice of 2 side dishes; all quite yummy and bargain-priced to boot!

The Queen's is located on the second level of Palm Beach Plaza, tucked into a cozy corner at the front of the mall. If you have a mind to try the real deal in Aruban food, without a doubt, this is the way to truly eat like a local.

**They are open from 11:00 AM to 11:00 PM, daily**, offering indoor and outdoor dining. Aside from an extensive menu they also have daily specials made from whatever is in season and Mama Luisa is in the mood to prepare, so don't forget to ask about what isn't on the menu!

## British pair 'plotted to murder' singer Joss Stone



LONDON (AFP) - Two men went on trial in Britain on Monday accused of plotting to rob and murder soul diva Joss Stone.

Kevin Liverpool and Junior Bradshaw drove to the 25-year-old singer's home in Devon, southwest England in June 2011, with a sword, a knife, a hammer and notes of their intentions in their car, Exeter Crown Court heard.

The Grammy-winning singer was at home at the time.

Bradshaw, 32, and 35-year-old Liverpool deny charges of conspiracy to murder, conspiracy to cause grievous bodily harm and conspiracy to rob.

"This case is about a decision by a group of individuals, of which these defendants are two, to rob and kill Joss Stone," prosecutor Simon Morgan told the jury.

He described Stone, best known for hits including "Super Duper Love" and "Fell In Love With A Boy", as "an extremely wealthy young woman".

The trial is due to last for around three weeks. Stone is

not expected to attend.

She has sold more than 11 million albums worldwide, with her 2003 debut "The Soul Sessions" and its follow-up "Mind Body and Soul" (2004) going platinum in Britain, the United States and the European Union.

## 'Oz' conjures up more N. America box office magic

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Big-budget 3D fantasy adventure flick "Oz the Great and Powerful" for a second straight weekend was the top film at North American movie houses, earning \$42.2 million, industry estimates showed.

Starring James Franco as a circus magician who ends up on the Yellow Brick Road, "The Wizard of Oz" prequel had a two-week total of \$145 million, according to box office tracker Exhibitor Relations. Second place went to "The Call," which debuted with \$17.1 million in sales. The film thriller stars screen siren Halle Berry as a 911 operator trying to rescue a young girl who has been abducted.

In third was a comedy, "The Incredible Burt Wonderstone," starring Steve Carell; Fourth place went to was "Jack the Giant Slayer," and "Identity Thief," a comedy starring Melissa McCarthy and Jason Bateman, was fifth.

## Bowie recrowned king of British charts

LONDON (AFP) - British rock icon David Bowie on Sunday reconquered his home charts by scoring his first number one album in 20 years with "The Next Day".

Bowie surprised the music world by breaking a decade-long musical silence in January when he unveiled a new single entitled "Where Are We Now?" to coincide with his 66th birthday -- his first release since the 2003 studio album "Reality".

The single was taken off "The Next Day", which this week became Britain's fastest selling album of 2013, the Official Charts Company an-

nounced Sunday.

The album notched up 94,000 sales, beating Scottish rockers Biffy Clyro's "Opposites" which sold 71,600 copies when it was released in January.

The last time Bowie topped the charts was in 1993 with "Black Tie White Noise".

Rumours had circulated that the musician was suffering from health problems and had retired with his wife and daughter in New York.

The album was described by Britain's Independent newspaper as "the greatest comeback album in rock'n'roll history".



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## 5 Burgers Aruba: Now your best breakfast bargain!



A favorite stop for a great burger for lunch or dinner has just expanded their hours and menu to offer some of the best breakfast bargains to be found in Palm Beach. Owners Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: a home on paradise while welcoming all and sundry to their proud undertaking, 5 Burgers Aruba. The couple's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what they really want has resulted in a unique menu from an inter-

nationally known franchise with a "5", which now includes breakfast.

"You never get a second chance to make a first impression," believes Aaron. Upon entering 5 Burgers Aruba in The Village Mall in Palm Beach, one is struck by utterly spotless surroundings and a smiling, friendly, attentive service crew. Of course, the main item on the menu is burgers-the way they were meant to be, thick and juicy,

made fresh daily and 100% pure beef, the kind that made the hamburger a traditional American treat.

However, beginning at 7 a.m., patrons can now order 2 eggs any style, (omelets with 3 fillings are \$7.99) toast and coffee with unlimited refills for the special introductory price of only \$4.49, (\$5.48 with bacon) or All-you-can-eat pancakes, for \$6.99, again, with free refills on fresh coffee. Breakfast is served until 11 a.m. Famous for their fries made from fresh potatoes, Aaron has been working for months on devising the most irresistible home fries recipe, chunky and tender with skins still on; after much testing and tasting, he got the thumbs up from his harshest critic, Rosie; so this is another treat you have to try.

A glance at their burger menu will certainly tempt you to return for lunch or dinner, to sample their famous specialty items such as the Gouda, Farmer's or Man Burger (al-



most 12 ounces of choice beef), and a Western Burger with Aarons' secret-recipe crispy onion rings. All of these can be personalized with an incredible array of toppings, (mushrooms, jala-peño peppers, bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato...whatever, the list goes on) at absolutely no extra cost.

5 Burger portions are ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of fries is enough to be shared by

two. He was very amused to watch a famous French chef demonstrating the best way to make fried potatoes on a gourmet cooking show and could only comment "He stole my recipe!"

Try them the English way-with vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gourmet cheeseburger.

5 Burgers is now open early until 10-ish at night; delivery is available to both the high-rise and low-rise hotel and beach district at now extra cost for orders over \$50. Enjoy a great lunch without ever leaving the beach by calling 586-3904. However, we suggest you stop by and enjoy their authentic, heartfelt hospitality; it is not unusual for either owner to sit and chat, sharing their knowledge of the island while making sure patrons are happy with their meal.

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For more information about The Residences, visit our sales office located in the golf clubhouse at the Divi Village Golf & Beach Resort.

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## SPORTS Giant killers Puerto Rico reach WBC final



Alex Rios #51, Jesus Feliciano #13 and Angel Pagan #16 of Team Puerto Rico celebrate defeating Team Japan 3 to 1

SAN FRANCISCO (AFP) - upset two-time defending champion Japan 3-1 in the semi-finals of the World Baseball Classic on Sunday.

Aviles batted two-for-three and scored a run for Puerto Rico who managed to hold off an eighth-inning rally by the Japanese to reach their first World Baseball Classic final.

"Coming here and being the first team to eliminate Japan means a lot," said Puerto Rico manager Edwin Rodriguez. "This win is huge. It is a huge performance and a huge accomplishment for the people of Puerto Rico."

Puerto Rico pitcher Fernando Cabrera got Kazuo Matsui to fly out to centre field for the final out of the game, touching off a wild celebration by the Puerto Ricans who piled onto each other in front of home plate.

Puerto Rico will face either the Dominican Republic or the Netherlands in today's championship game.

This was their third game in as many days as they earned a spot in the final with a dynamic 4-3 win over the USA on Friday but they couldn't carry that momentum over into Saturday, losing 2-0 to the Dominicans in Miami.

Japan hit eight homers in their first six games but they couldn't generate much offence against Puerto Rico's pitching staff on Sunday, finishing with just six hits and leaving 13 men on base in front of a crowd of 33,683 at AT&T park.

"The opponent was a great team today," said Japan manager Koji Yamamoto. "The hitters were good, the pitchers were really good. So it was really hard to find an opportunity. Today our opponent was better."

Japan won their first two World Baseball Classics with dominant pitching as ace Daisuke Matsuzaka was named tournament MVP in both 2006 and 2009.

## Beckham remains on top of best-paid list

PARIS (AFP) - David Beckham is out in front as the highest-paid player in world football, according to a report that appears in Tuesday's edition of France Football magazine.

The veteran Englishman, who joined Paris Saint-Germain in January on a short-term deal until the end of the season, is nearing the end of his playing career but still comes in ahead of world player of the year Lionel Messi and prolific Real Madrid star Cristiano Ronaldo.

France Football report that Beckham will earn 36 million euros (\$46.7m, £30.9m) in 2012-13, leaving him just ahead of four-time Ballon d'Or winner Messi.

Beckham, who left the Los Angeles Galaxy in December, is reported to have earned an annual salary of 1.7 million

euros, with his income supplemented by 1.3 million euros in bonuses and some 33 million euros from other sources, including advertising deals.

The 37-year-old Beckham revealed after signing for PSG that all money due to him from his contract with the French giants will be donated to charity.

In contrast, Messi's income of 35 million euros includes 13 million in salary and bonuses, with the remainder coming from advertising and other sources.

Ronaldo comes in third, with total income reaching 30 million euros, including 13.5 million euros from salary and bonuses.

The magazine also reports that Real Madrid coach Jose Mourinho is the best-paid coach in the world game, earning 14 million euros a year.



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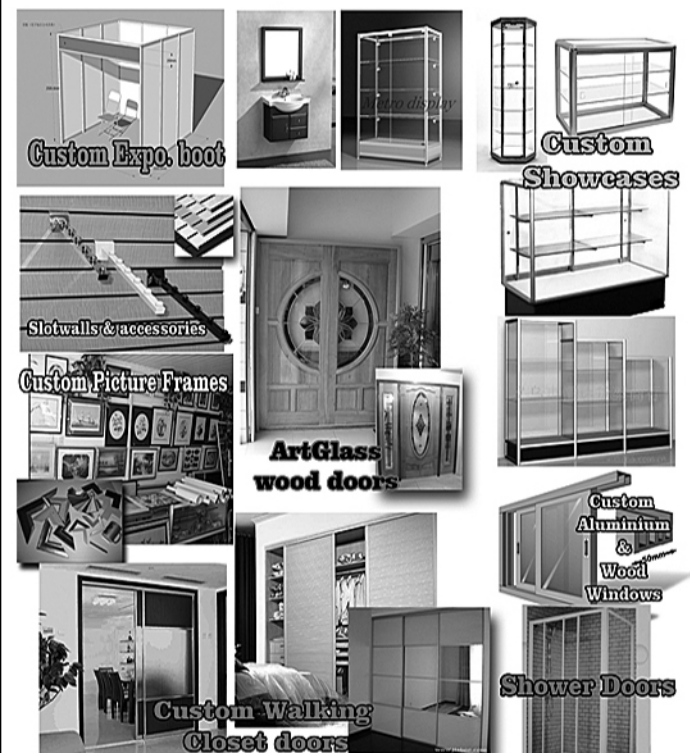
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## NCAA 2013 Predictions: Indiana, Louisville, poised to make Final Four runs in March Madness

March Madness is in full swing this week, as the 2013 NCAA Tournament officially gets underway today.

Sixty-eight teams have a chance to win the national championship, starting with the four first-round games on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Several teams seem to have a good chance of reaching the Final Four due to an absence of dominant teams this year. The Top 25 has changed week to week, with the No.1 team losing every week for over a month.

Here follows predicted winners for each region, as well as the Final Four in April.

### Midwest: Louisville

It's not hard to see why the Cardinals were chosen as the top overall seed in the tourna-



ment. Louisville finished the regular season tied with Georgetown and Marquette for the best record in the Big East, which is probably the best conference in the country.

Other than a three-game losing streak in late January, the Cardinals have been virtually unbeatable. All of their losses came to tournament teams, and none of their five defeats came by more than nine points. Duke was the only non-conference loss on Louisville's schedule.

Not only is Louisville's overall body of work as impressive as anybody's, but it would be hard to find a team that is currently playing better. The Cardinals have won their last 10 games, including six in a row against teams in the field of 68.

Louisville is comprised of mostly veterans, led by juniors Gorgui Dieng and Russ Smith. Senior Peyton Siva is second on the team with 31.4 minutes per game, and unlike last year's Kentucky team that won the title, they don't rely on any freshman.

The Cardinals don't have an easy draw to the Final Four. With teams like Duke, Michigan State and Saint Louis in their bracket, Louisville could have a few close calls on their way to Atlanta. However, Rick Pitino's club probably has the best chance to cut down the nets on April 8.

### West: New Mexico

The No.3 seed Lobos have

been one of the most consistent teams in the nation all season long. At 29-5, New Mexico never suffered two losses consecutively, and fell to Air Force by one point in their only loss to a team that didn't make the tourney.

Despite not playing in one of the major conferences, New Mexico showed that they can hang with the best teams in the country. They won all of their games against ranked opponents, defeating Connecticut, Cincinnati, UNLV, and Colorado State when they were ranked in the top 25. The lobos are also undefeated when playing on a neutral court.

New Mexico is very deep, with nine players averaging over 14 minutes per contest. They also have seven-footer Alex Kirk in the middle, with whom most teams will have trouble matching up against.

Gonzaga has the top seed in the region, but the club has shown in recent years that it is prone to upsets. Usually one of the best teams in the country, Gonzaga has made the NCAA Tournament every year since 1999, but always failed to reach the Final Four.

### South: Georgetown

Before their overtime loss to Syracuse in the Big East Tournament, the Hoyas had been playing just about as well as anyone. Suffering just two losses in the past two months, Georgetown has proven that they are a legitimate threat to win their first title since 1984.

Georgetown certainly isn't without its weaknesses. They are just 247th in Division 1 basketball in both scoring

and rebounding, and lost to 12-19 USF. Still the Hoyas are a tough matchup for any team.

Otto Porter Jr. is one of the best players in the tournament. The sophomore is averaging 16.3 points and 7.4 rebounds per game on 49 percent shooting from the field. At 6'8, he's extremely athletic and probably the team's best defender. He helps lead a defense that allowed 50 or fewer points on 10 different occasions.

Along with Porter, Markel Starks can be deadly from behind the arc, hitting 42 percent of his three-pointers. Since the suspension of Greg Whittington, only six Hoya players play a significant number of minutes each game. Georgetown may not be the deepest team in the South, but their core is as good as anyone's.

The region may be the second-most difficult. No.1 seed Kansas and No.3 seed Florida are considered two of the favorites to be crowned champions. Being the No.2 seed, though, should give them a fairly easy draw to, at least, the Sweet Sixteen.

### East: Indiana

The Hoosiers have hovered around the top of the polls for the entire 2013-2013 college basketball season. The club has had a few missteps of late, losing three of their last six, but their wins

against the likes of North Carolina, Michigan, Ohio State and Michigan State make their resume as good as any in the country.

Indiana has proven to be an offensive juggernaut, averaging 80 points per game. They have deadly shooters in Christian Watford and Jordan Hulls. Junior Victor Oladipo is as efficient as they come, scoring 13.6 points a game on 60 percent shooting.

Cody Zeller might be the top player in the country. Averaging 16.9 points and 8.2 rebounds, few teams will be able to contain the seven-foot sophomore.

Miami may be the biggest threat to Indiana's quest for a championship. The Hurricanes, seemingly, played well enough to earn a No.1 seed, finishing with the best record in the ACC and winning the conference tournament.

### FINAL FOUR REDICTION:

**Indiana 70,  
Louisville 63**

Favorites to win the 2013 NCAA Tournament, according to the Las Vegas Hilton SuperBook:

Louisville: 9-2  
Indiana: 7-1  
Duke: 8-1  
Florida: 8-1  
Miami: 8-1  
Kansas: 10-1  
Gonzaga: 12-1  
Ohio State: 15-1  
Michigan State: 18-1  
Michigan: 18-1  
Georgetown: 18-1

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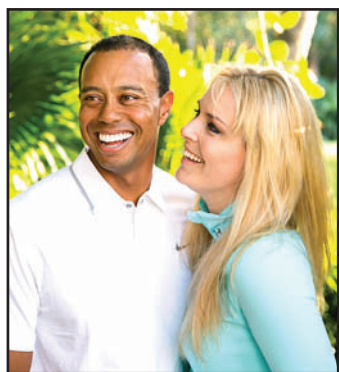
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## Woods and Vonn reveal love interest



MIAMI (AFP) - Tiger Woods, the 14-time major golf champion whose infamous sex scandal with multiple mistresses led to a 2010 divorce, is dating ski star Lindsey Vonn, the two US sports icons announced on Monday.

"I guess it wasn't a well-kept secret but yes, I am dating Tiger Woods," Vonn said in a Twitter posting and a longer statement on her Facebook page that included pictures of the couple.

"Our relationship evolved from a friendship into something more over these past few months and it has made me very happy. I don't plan on addressing this further as I would like to keep that part of my life between us, my family and close friends. Thank you for understanding and your continued support! xo LV"

Woods posted a Twitter message that said, on his Facebook page: "This season has been great so far and I'm happy with my wins at Torrey and Doral," Woods said. "Something nice that's happened off the course was meeting Lindsey Vonn. Lindsey and I have been friends for some time, but over the last few months we have become very close and are now dating."

"We thank you for your support and for respecting our privacy. We want to continue our relationship, privately, as an ordinary couple and continue to compete as athletes."

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